

REMARKS

The present Amendment is in response to the Office Action mailed September 6, 2006 in the above-identified application.

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-20 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as claiming the same invention as that of claims 1-20 of U.S. Patent No. 6,723,127. In response, Applicants have canceled claims 1-20 and introduced new claims 21-40. New claims 21-40 are fully supported by the originally filed specification and add no new matter. See, for example, the embodiments shown in FIGS. 2.4-2.6, 3.6-3.7, 3.13-3.14, and 4.13-4.15.

As it is believed that all of the rejections set forth in the Office Action have been fully met, favorable reconsideration and allowance are earnestly solicited.

If, however, for any reason the Examiner does not believe that such action can be taken at this time, it is respectfully requested that he telephone Applicants' attorney at (908) 654-5000 in order to overcome any additional objections which he might have.

If there are any additional charges in connection with this requested Amendment, the Examiner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 12-1095 therefor.

Dated: December 5, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

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